

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/CH2004/000511

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER					
IPC 7	C12N15/53	C12N15/11	C12N9/02	C12N9/04	C12N15/63
	C12N1/21	C12P17/04	C12P7/60		

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 C12N C12P

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, EMBL, WPI Data, PAJ, BIOSIS, FSTA, Sequence Search

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	SAITO Y ET AL: "CLONING OF GENES CODING FOR L-SORBOSE AND L-SORBOSONE DEHYDROGENASES FROM GLUCONOBACTER OXYDANS AND MICROBIAL PRODUCTION OF 2-KETO-L-GULONATE, A PRECURSOR OF L-ASCORBIC ACID, IN A RECOMBINANT G. OXYDANS STRAIN" APPLIED AND ENVIRONMENTAL MICROBIOLOGY, WASHINGTON, DC, US, vol. 63, no. 2, 1997, pages 454-460, XP000886144 ISSN: 0099-2240 the whole document -----	1-37
X	EP 0 922 759 A (F. HOFFMANN-LA ROCHE AG) 16 June 1999 (1999-06-16) the whole document ----- -/-	1-37

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

16 March 2005

Date of mailing of the International search report

12.07.2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DATABASE EMBL [Online] 18 December 2001 (2001-12-18), "Agrobacterium tumefaciens str. C58 linear chromosome, section 35 of 187 of the complete sequence." XP002321379 retrieved from EBI accession no. EM PRO:AE009265 Database accession no. AE009265 the whole document -----	1,4-7,12
X	DATABASE UniProt [Online] 1 June 2003 (2003-06-01), "Glucose dehydrogenase." XP002321380 retrieved from EBI accession no. UNIPROT:Q882Q7 Database accession no. Q882Q7 the whole document -----	9
X	WO 97/04101 A (FRAUNHOFER-GESELLSCHAFT ZUR FOERDERUNG DER ANGEWANDTEN WISSSLER, JOSEF; F) 6 February 1997 (1997-02-06) sequences 7,12,20 -----	9,10
A	WO 03/016508 A (CERESTAR HOLDING B.V; DE TROOSTEMBERGH, JEAN-CLAUDE, MARIE-PIERRE, GHI) 27 February 2003 (2003-02-27) claims 1-4; examples 1-7 -----	1-37
A	SUGISAWA T ET AL: "ISOLATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF A NEW VITAMIN C PRODUCING ENZYME (L-GULONO-GAMMA-LACTONE DEHYDROGENASE) OF BACTERIAL ORIGIN" BIOSCIENCE, BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BIOCHEMISTRY, XX, XX, vol. 59, no. 2, February 1995 (1995-02), pages 190-196, XP001084987 ISSN: 0916-8451 page 191 - page 192 -----	24-37
A	EP 0 911 415 A (F. HOFFMANN-LA ROCHE AG) 28 April 1999 (1999-04-28) the whole document -----	24-37
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Internal Ref.	Application No.
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	SUGISAWA T ET AL: "MICROBIAL PRODUCTION OF 2-KETO-L-GULONIC ACID FROM L-SORBOSE AND D-SORBITOL BY GLUCONOBACTER MELANOGENUS" AGRICULTURAL AND BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY, JAPAN SOC. FOR BIOSCIENCE, BIOTECHNOLOGY AND AGROCHEM. TOKYO, JP, vol. 54, no. 5, May 1990 (1990-05), pages 1201-1209, XP002061325 ISSN: 0002-1369 cited in the application table 3 -----	1-37
A	LEE H-W ET AL: "Screening for L-sorbose and L-sorbosone dehydrogenase producing microbes for 2-keto-L-gulonic acid production" JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL MICROBIOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY, BASINGSTOKE, GB, vol. 23, no. 2, August 1999 (1999-08), pages 106-111, XP002241676 ISSN: 1367-5435 the whole document -----	1-37
A	SHINJOH M ET AL: "Cloning and Nucleotide Sequencing of the Membrane-Bound L-Sorbosone Dehydrogenase Gene of Acetobacter liquefaciens IFO 12258, and Its Expression in Gluconobacter oxydans" APPLIED AND ENVIRONMENTAL MICROBIOLOGY, WASHINGTON, DC, US, vol. 61, no. 2, February 1995 (1995-02), pages 413-420, XP002267229 ISSN: 0099-2240 table 1 -----	1-37
P,X	WO 03/104445 A (ROCHE VITAMINS AG; HOSHINO, TATSUO; MIYAZAKI, TARO; SUGISAWA, TERUHIDE) 18 December 2003 (2003-12-18) the whole document -----	1-37
P,X	WO 2004/029269 A (DSM IP ASSETS B.V.; HOSHINO, TATSUO; MIYAZAKI, TARO; SUGISAWA, TERUHIDE) 8 April 2004 (2004-04-08) the whole document -----	1-37
P,X	WO 03/089634 A (ROCHE VITAMINS AG; HOSHINO, TATSUO; MIYAZAKI, TARO; SUGISAWA, TERUHIDE) 30 October 2003 (2003-10-30) the whole document -----	1-37
P,X	WO 2004/029235 A (DSM IP ASSETS B.V.; HOSHINO, TATSUO; MIYAZAKI, TARO; SUGISAWA, TERUHIDE) 8 April 2004 (2004-04-08) the whole document -----	1-37

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Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of Invention Is lacking (Continuation of Item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-23 (completely); 24-37 (in part)

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-23 (completely); 24-37 (in part)

Isolated polynucleotide derivable from a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide having L-sorbose dehydrogenase activity relating to SEQ ID NO 1. Partial sequences thereof. Polypeptide encoded by such a polynucleotide relating to SEQ ID NO 2. Partial sequences thereof. Expression vector and recombinant organism comprising such polynucleotide. Process for the production of L-ascorbic acid from a substrate selected from D-sorbitol, L-sorbose and L-sorbosone using such a recombinant organism, a non-recombinant microorganism or such a polypeptide. Process for the production of L-sorbosone dehydrogenase. Process for the production of vitamin C comprising converting a substrate into vitamin C in a medium comprising resting cells of a microorganism, limited to the microorganisms as described above (microorganism comprising a polypeptide relating to SEQ ID NO 2).

2. claims: 24-37 (in part)

Process for the production of vitamin C comprising converting a substrate into vitamin C in a medium comprising resting cells of a microorganism, as far as not covered by invention 1.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Internal PCT/CH2004/000511	Application No
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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0922759	A 16-06-1999	EP 0922759 A2 BR 9805685 A CA 2253023 A1 CN 1225390 A ,C DE 69821326 D1 DE 69821326 T2 DK 922759 T3 ES 2215263 T3 IN 187978 A1 JP 11225754 A US 6242233 B1 US 2001026933 A1	16-06-1999 11-04-2000 01-06-1999 11-08-1999 04-03-2004 18-11-2004 01-06-2004 01-10-2004 03-08-2002 24-08-1999 05-06-2001 04-10-2001
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EP 0911415	A 28-04-1999	EP 0476442 A2 EP 0911415 A2 AT 180831 T CN 1060111 A ,C CN 1274756 A DE 69131286 D1 DE 69131286 T2 DK 476442 T3 JP 3086301 B2 JP 4281785 A US 5250428 A	25-03-1992 28-04-1999 15-06-1999 08-04-1992 29-11-2000 08-07-1999 11-11-1999 15-11-1999 11-09-2000 07-10-1992 05-10-1993
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